

The PVRC Newsletter

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NEXT MEETING : Monday, April 14, 1986
QTH : K3ZO home, directions last page
AGENDA : Vote on 1986-'87 meeting site
Continue discussion:
restructure of PVRC awards
financial status of club
presentation: BVOBG DXpedition

President's Notes

We had a great meeting in March. Before our normal discussion about the normal and the abnormal that each of us experienced during the ARRL DX tests we discussed needed reform of the PVRC contest (five million) awards program and began discussing a plan for long-term financial stability in view of our steadily diminishing treasury. We also continued our discussion on meeting site for 1986 - '87.

The ARRL SSB DX Contest

Bob Cox, K3EST, related some interesting tales of TVI and moving the entire PJOB station during the contest. Bob and the other two operators still averaged about 160 QSOs per hour despite the problems, of course.

The crew at Frank's M/M W3LPL ended up with 2397 QSOs, 428 mults, for about 3.1 million. This was the last operation from the "old" W3LPL. The new one, with more antennas and towers, is already well along and Frank promises that it will be finished by summer's end. See the news article included on another page. The article demonstrates that basically fair and balanced news can be presented - a credit to both the newspaper and to Frank's obviously successful discussion with the reporter. At last word all was calm in Howard County.

Other excellent ARRL SSB all-band scores from around the club include that of Fred, K3ZO, with about 1675/303 and a shot at second place nationally, behind K1KI up in New England; N2FB estimated at 1400/275; K3ZJ 1000/250; W3HHG 635/191; N3JT 603/160; Fifteen meter single band scores: K3RV perhaps on top nationally with 960/115; and N8II 690/98.

Quite a few others were on, and I hope that all of you sent your scores into the ARRL, and on a summary sheet that credited the "PVRC".

Finances

At the last meeting we began thinking about a problem : we are paying out more to just mail the newsletter than we have received in 1986 dues. While we do have a little cushion, this is solely due to the fact that we have a little money still left over from the repeater. But that is

President's Notes (continued -- Page 2)

disappearing fast. At the present dues rate we need 72 paid members minimum just to cover the newsletter. Other recurring obligations include plaques and awards in our own program (the 5 million award), a massive mailing for the PVRC reunion, our annual clock award, and the Tom Peruzzi W4BVV and Vic Clark W4KFC contest awards.

Over the next couple of months we will be discussing this at meetings. The officers also solicit your ideas and suggestions, either at meetings or by mail or telephone. (My address is on the ballot, below.)

If you are interested in contesting, we hope that PVRC membership is worth the \$10 and that you will help us by sending in your dues even if you generally don't make the meetings. While I personally think the meetings are the best part of club membership, Walt and I have worked hard on improving this club newsletter so that it will be informative and helpful to our members. The improvement will continue, and I hope more of you will help by writing a small piece for us. Send these directly to Walt at the address on the first page of every newsletter.

I do want to clarify that thanks to Fred's hospitality this year the meetings are not a major expense. And the Christmas dinner was self-supporting. Our major expense is for printing and mailing this newsletter, and our other expenses are as noted above.

My purpose in bringing this to your attention is to inform all of you as to the club's status and solicit your suggestions, whether in person at our next meeting or by mail. My address is on noted on the ballot, below.

By next September we must have a plan by which to live within our means. Either some of the things we are doing must be cut, and close to 100% of club expenses are for what I have listed above, or we have to raise more money. Should we cut ? Should we raise dues ? Should we take up collections at meetings when we have spent more than planned for the previous quarter ? Obtain tax-free status and see if a benefactor or two might contribute more than dues (which are not tax deductible in any event) to help PVRC ? What are the other possibilities ?

The time to work through this is now, while we still have an albeit diminishing cushion. I hope it doesn't come to no awards, no reunion, and 14-cent postcard meeting notices instead of this bulletin. What are your ideas?

President's Notes (continued -- Page 3)

Needed : PVRC Treasurer

Our current treasurer, Fred Laun K3ZO, will be taking up his new post in Managua a little earlier than originally planned. We need a volunteer to take over the books, and it would be helpful to do this in May while Fred is still here to explain it all. Please let me know if you are willing to help.

Meeting Site for 1986 - '87

We have had at least three discussions on meeting sites at our meetings this year. We have four possible sites. We will take a written vote at the April meeting on 1) whether to have two sites on opposite side of D.C. or one, and 2) which of the four we most want and which is our second choice. If for any reason you will not be at this meeting, please detach and mail the ballot reproduced below. They must be postmarked no later than April 15, because by April 21 I will contact our four volunteering members with the results and reserve the selected site. If we cannot get our first choice we will go to the second, but to the best of my belief all four are available.

I want especially to thank the four members who worked to find these sites: Eric Scace, K3NA; "Stew" Stewart, AA4I; Tom Abernethy, WA3TAI; and Bob Thames, K3RT. Due to their work we have four sites to propose in four distinct geographical areas. If you have any questions about any of these four, please contact the person responsible.

I suspect that after discussion one will emerge as the favorite at the meeting. But if the meeting vote is close your mail ballot may be crucial. The sites and information follow. I have noted the member proposing the site in case you wish to contact them for further information. If the vote is pretty well evenly divided we might try a second ballot between the two top choices, and if possible, a third new choice located between the two top ones, or something like that.

If do not attend April 14 meeting, mail no later than April 15 to:
DAVID SIDDALL, 9763 Oleander Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180.

1. PVRC should have two meeting sites in two separate areas between which meetings will alternate. YES _____ NO _____

2. State order of preference, "1" being most favorable and "4" least.
___ Temple Hills, MD; ___ Annandale, VA; ___ Reston, VA; ___ New Hamp. Ave., MD

___ I enclose \$10. for 1986 PVRC dues.

President's Notes (continued -- Page 4)

Descriptions of possible meeting sites follow.

1. Temple Hills, Maryland. One block off beltway Exit 5 (Branch Avenue). Same exit as K3Z0's, but closer to the beltway. Church room with adequate facilities. This room "rents" for \$15. per meeting, several members propose sponsoring the cost and believe that enough other members could be found to do so to cover our eight regular monthly meetings (Sept.- Nov.; Jan.- May) that this will not be paid from our normal club treasury. (For further info contact WA3TAI.)
2. Annandale, Virginia. Three miles inside Virginia Beltway Exit 6, at 6507 Columbia Pike, a Fairfax County office building. Suitable room seats 50, has chalkboard. No charge. (For further information contact AA4I.)
3. Reston, Virginia. GTE Telenet complex, less than fifteen minutes from Beltway Exit right on Dulles Toll Road. (For further information contact K3NA.)
4. New Hamp. Ave., MD. School 10-15 minutes north of Beltway on New Hampshire Avenue. Similar to school room we met in before, but further north off beltway. (For further information contact K3RT.)

-- I believe that all of these of suitable facilities and nearby pizza or similar places can be located.

March 10, 1986 Meeting Attendance:

KC8C -- W3FG -- K3ZJ -- W3HHG -- K3Z0 -- KM3T -- KX3Q -- K3EST -- W3Y0Z --
W3AZ -- W3LPL -- W3XE -- W3GN -- W6AXX -- N3JT -- W3YY -- W3FA -- K3ZZ.

Thanks es 73, c u April 14 at K3Z0's.


Dave, K3ZJ